

# A POESIE IN FORME

of a Vision, briefly inueying against the moſte  
hatefull, and prodigious Artes of Necromancie,  
Witchcraft, Sorcerie, Incantations, and diuers  
other detestable and deuiliſhe practiſes, day-  
ly vſed vnder colour of Iudiciall Astrolo-  
gie. Compiled in Metre by

I. H.

ESAY. 19.

VVhen they aske counsell at their Gods, at their  
Prophets, at their Southſayers and VVitches,  
then vvill I bring their counſelles to nought.



PRINTED AT LONDON BY  
Rouland Hall, dwelling in gutter Lane  
at the ſigne of the halfe Eagle and  
the Keye.

1563.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Office of the Chief of Police  
City of New York  
New York, N.Y.  
January 1, 1901

TO THE HONORABLE  
THE COMMISSIONER OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY

RE: [Illegible text]





Ro out the Rain into y bull,  
as Titan last gan craule:  
By order in his endles path,  
ecliptike that men caule.

Which path doth so the zodiak,  
iust in the mydest deuide:  
That syre degrees therof are found,  
from it on euery syde.

When day was fled, and night in place,  
as was natures request:  
I went to bed full hoping there,  
to take some quiet rest.

Which longe before I lacked so,  
through trouble of mine hart:  
That thus I made my plaint to god,  
who only knewe my smart.

Allmighty Ioue, graunt now that I,  
with sleape this nyght begyle:  
As did Vlysses, when from care,  
he eased was a while.

When most frendly Alcinous,  
good kyng of Phaeacca  
Hym sent in shiptyll he sayld home  
to hys own Ithaca.

Who sleaping styll was from the shippe  
layd forth vpon the land:  
Which whē he woke, what place it was  
did nothing vnderstond.

Untyll Minerva him infornd,  
and gaue hym perfect bewoe:  
How sone he might in pꛛecense be,  
of Penelope true

Hys wyfe most chaste which fortun strag,  
to hys great greife of mynde:  
By dyuers lucke, long tyme with held,  
in Homer as we fynde.

But Philomela bysely,  
recorded so hyr song:  
That al my shiftes could win no sleape,  
that would continue long,



For as they fayne the thorne so sharpe  
dyd seme to touch hyr breast,  
For her Myll notes so perst mine eares,  
that long I could not rest.

yet in short sleaps such dreadfull dreames  
I gan to thynke and met:  
That when I wakt besyde my wyffe  
it had me almost set.

We thought I dyd in medowes walke  
For my sport and solase:  
Where siluer drops, of dewe most swete  
dyd cleave to euery grasse.

Wherby there ran a ryuer fayre  
with streames so Cristall clere:  
That at the bothom might be sene  
The peeble stones appere.

Above the medow was a rock,  
and on that rocke a woode:  
From which ran many pleasant springs  
into that ryuer good.

A. iii.

Crossyng

Crossing the medes, they triced downe,  
as lyfe bloode in the baines  
Doth from the hart, till ech member,  
comfort therby attaynes.

Above this woddy rocke there was  
a felde most pleasant grene:  
Where the beautye of natures workes  
right aptly might be sene.

Ther was no herbe, nor pleasāt flower  
in such a felde to knowe:  
But might be sene most fruitfully  
within this feilde to grow.

What should I name the Niasinthe,  
or soote Verbasculy:  
The clouer swete of diuers kindes,  
that coulde are trifoly.

The Brunell, and the Bugle blewē,  
with fayre Hieracium:  
The Synkefelde, and the Betony,  
and swete Origanum.

The



The Tutsain, and Hipericon,  
A sciron, and Paunseye:

The Wyolet, and Simphiton,  
and the doble Dayesye.

The Hartsease, and the Pacience,  
and crimsen Winpernell:

The Caminock, and the Caminowille,  
and caunterbury bell.

Roscampany, Maudlen, and Coste,  
and London toust so red:

Agrimony, and Liang toth,  
that childyen caule pisbed.

Odoziferus Serpillum,  
and ladye Trases fyne:

With yarow, torn twise, Strawberies,  
and Burnet good with wine.

The Lunary, the Serpents tongue,  
and Procerpinaca:

The Adder gras, the Saxifrage,  
and eke Veronica.

It hedged was with hony suckes,

or Periclimenum:

Well myred with sinale Cornus trease,

sweete byer, and Ligustrum.

The white thorn, & y black thorne both,  
with bore, and inaple fyne:

In which braunched the byony,  
the Iuye, and wylde byue.

To long I should the tyme detract,  
and from my purpose straie:

If I should reckon all the things  
within the felde so gaye.

Besyde the good prospect for those,  
that know astronomy:

I thinke no platforn in the world,  
where one might more aptly

The rysyng see, and settyngs bot h,  
that Cosmike haue to name:

Cronike to, and Helyak,  
of starres of noble faine.

About



About our arctik pole ye myght  
the lytle beare fyrst see:  
That cauled are, the guardes , of those,  
that conning saylers be.

The great beare also in the which  
charles wayne apereth stoute:  
Which with the small beare euer more,  
doth walk the pole about.

Which bears the Dragon doth inuolue,  
then Bootes, and the north crowne:  
And after kneelyng Hercules,  
is sene with great renoune.

Harpe, falling gryp, goate, swan, and he  
that vse to dryue the cart:  
The man that doth the serpent beare,  
the eagle, and the dart.

Dolphin, forehors, and thother hors  
that flyes cauld Pegasus:  
The triangle, and Andromede  
as some men do discusse.

A. b.

The

The Zodiake, with his xii. sygnes,  
where planets haue their way:  
With all aspectes that may bechance  
to any night or Daye.

The Bulls eye, with the rest of starres,  
that coulde are Hyades  
May there be sene, with y<sup>e</sup> brood Hēne,  
that some name Ploeiades.

The Manger, and the Alies twayne,  
the Lions hart, and tayle:  
The virgins spike, the scorpions hart,  
and water potte all hayle.

Whale, orion, and golden yarde,  
that ladyes Elle some calle:  
The riuer, hare, and both the dogges,  
as well the great as small.

The serpent of the south, the Cuppe,  
the Rauen, and Centaure:  
The Centaurs speare: & then the wolfe,  
and also the altare.

The



The south crowne also may be sene,  
with many other there:  
As tricar's constellation,  
or Berenices heare,

The shippe that Argo poetes do name,  
there might a man beholde:  
And many mo then I can name,  
an hundred thousand folde.

There might ye see ascensions,  
both oblique and ryght:  
No secretes of astronomye,  
that were not there in syght.

And to be bryefe, it was the ioye,  
of Ladye Vranic:  
Wherin to walke she did frequent,  
with all hyr familye.

But as I clymed vp the rocke,  
as I had oft before:  
Of that swete felde to take the eyre,  
Which doth mang spirits restore,

I mette a man in garments long  
most decent to behold:

His long beard gray, so was his hedde,  
which did declare hym old.

His countenance in sobernes  
all others dyd excell:

His gate and gesture send enough  
all vices to expell.

For from the rule of honesty  
in hym was nothing sene:

His outward woorkes did explicate  
an inward conscience cleane.

He toke me by the hand, and sayd,  
Dere frend how far away:

To yender feld father (I sayd)  
a whyle inefself to play.

My frend alas (quod he) beware  
how ye hence forth come there:

It wyll you ellis in hell confound,  
therfore I say forbear.

What



What is your name my father say,  
(sayd I) do it disclose:  
Theologus, I am (quod he)  
with the I wyll not glose.

Why than (sayd I) do ye me warne  
from yender pleasant place:  
Because (quod he) it late receaude  
a chaunce of great disgrace.

How so (sayd I) than hark quod he,  
I do not vse to lye:  
I wyll the shew how it befell,  
and that ryght orderly.

A heron foule, that hunger gutte,  
of all foules at hys foode:  
Most rauonous, insaciate,  
and of most gready moode

Hard by the dolfull banks of Styx,  
that foule infernall flood  
To fyll hys gutte, or take his pray  
styll watching late he stode.

Where

Where at the last, a serpent yonge,  
of Plutos hatfull kynd  
Came crawling out, whych gredy gutt,  
coude very quickly fynde.

And thynking it had ben an Ele,  
he cobde him vp at onse:  
And with that pray away he flewe,  
and made thereof no Bones.

Which creping in his belye, dyd  
to him such extreme payne:  
Till in this field at last he light,  
thinking there to remaine:

And forth with at his fundament,  
put forth his forsaide meate:  
Thinking as he was wont with Eles,  
the same againe to eate.

But beyng quicke the serpent straight,  
did crepe among the grasse:  
Which long necke could no more espye,  
ne yet fynde where she was.

Wherefore



Wherfore to Scyx he went againe,  
and like wyse swallowed inoe:  
And to this fielde still toke his flight,  
and there did let them go.

Tyll he at last so many brought,  
through this his frequent vse:  
That now this fyeld is marred quyte,  
through most hatfull abuse.

And such a number of serpents  
in it do dayly breed:  
Which on these herbes & pleasant gras,  
continually do fede,

That now it is not only robde  
of euery pleasant flower,  
But hatefull flinche may there be felt  
at euery time and hower.

And Vranie hath it forsoke,  
with holsome plaesant flowers:  
And naturall Astronomie,  
with al her fauourers.

And

And true phisicke forsakes it to,  
for why, cloudes infernall  
Are Dayly blowen from Lethes floud  
to water it withall.

Which causeth nothing there to grow,  
but superstition,  
Of learnyng pure, and science good  
the byle obliuion.

Astrologye iudiciall  
therfore doth it possesse:  
Which is a strompet counterfyte,  
and yet neuertheles

Because some learned men to hye  
do cast their myndes and loue:  
That she is true astronomy  
ryght many she doth moue.

And vnder colour of that name  
they vse Necromancye:  
With hatfull incantacions,  
and byle Geomancye.



Of Magike artes there are great flore,  
and Augurs arte perdye:  
Foredeining as Aruspices,  
and some as Pyrethi.

All Witchcraft vyle and Sozcerye,  
of false Phytonicus,  
Although they giue theselues the name  
of graue Philonicus.

These are the frutes of Phlegia,  
or Satanes wicked broode,  
That in this fielde the Heron witte,  
to ease him when he stode.

Alas:(quod I) hath this vncleane,  
and hatefull byrde done so:  
And natures derling thus defast:  
to hym ve ve, woo woo.

Then am I of my fantasye,  
and my pleasant delight:  
And holosome recreation  
robde, and depzyued quight.

B.i.

With

With hanging hed, and bathfull face  
I turned backe againe.  
For grayberds counsell durst I not  
refuse, or once disdayne

But with most lowly reuerence  
with thanke and condyng praise  
I serued him, when as we went  
ech one hys sondry wayes.

But sorowfully syghing I  
went with my sorow newes,  
Enforming my familiar frendes  
with whom I dyd peruse

My study small, where with I do  
my wytte still occupy:  
And do with them communicate  
my mynde continually.

Of which some did sorowfully  
with me thys chaunce lament.  
And other some would not beleue,  
but to the place they went.



For would not here Theologus,  
that frendly dyd them warne:  
But nedes would go presumptuously,  
the matter to deserue.

Which hath them so infected now,  
and that most dyuelishely:  
They are content to graunt it still  
to be Astronoinye.

And necessary wyll it call,  
though by the diuless worke  
Under cloke of Astronoinye  
these foule false saytors looke,

So I be holpe of greife (say they)  
or fynd that which I losse:  
Or know my desteny to come,  
why should I count it coste?

God would not suffer (other sayd)  
such thynges for to be wrought:  
If he dyd not allowe the same,  
or know it to be nought.

It is a good worke, (other sayde),  
men to health to restore:  
Although it be by deuills worke,  
what nede I pas thereore.

To helpe a true man to his goods,  
whereof he was deprived  
By false theues and vile barators,  
that wrongly it atchiued.

It can not be but a good worke,  
thus beastly men and fond  
Do answere them, that wold enstruct,  
or make them vnderstand.

Not regarding the law of god,  
nor hys commaundement:  
That no yll thing ought to be done,  
vpon a good intent.

Also if gods permiſſion  
were a lawfull defence,  
So were it for all kinde of synne,  
and moſt wicked offence.



As whoredome, homicide, and thefte,  
with vyle idolatrye:

For treason, couetyse, and pryde,  
and most vyle simonye.

May I not say, all these be good,  
syth god doth them permitte:  
As well as those whom ye defend,  
Oh men of beastly witte:

His sufferance is to let your synne  
in to full rypenes growe:

That in the lake of sulphure he  
most iustly may you throwe.

And so declare his glory great  
vnto his flocke electe:

That do by grace these wicked arts,  
cleane from their hartes reiect.

Their counsellis all at god they aske,  
and do at him requyre

Their sauyng helth, and he doth gyue  
to them their whole desire.

B.iii.

For

For why one heare shall neuer fall,  
from of their heads no tyme  
Without his wyll, which doth impute  
to them no synne nor cryme.

For why they aske in lyuely faith  
all whereof they haue nede:  
Which causeth them assuredly  
of their purpose to speede.

Therefore it must of force proceade,  
of infydelitye:

That ye at deuils seke such help  
through most vyle sorcery.

As did kyng Saule that damned man,  
when gods spirit him forsoke,  
When god would hyin no answere make  
for wythcraft gan he loke,

Whych faitheles myst, how much it did  
hyin in hys nede auayle  
Byd well appere, he slewe himself,  
when foole did him assayle.

And



And so do ye your selues Declare,  
of that same very sect:  
While ye at Satan seke your helpe,  
and do gods power suspect.

For as to dyules here ye sought,  
as reprobates forelorne:  
So shall ye be hys porcion,  
syth god ye haue forsworne.

Unles in tyme ye may repent,  
which if it be gods will:  
He graunt ye all that ye may hate,  
and thornish this great yll.

For though on prudent Salomon  
they father this there art:  
They are the workes of wickednes,  
and of eternall smart.

The very cause, for why saint John,  
as god did him reueale:  
Hath found their place to be in hell,  
where torments are eche deale.

Confounded are these coniurers  
with conscience vncleane:  
And all that vnto sorcery,  
or wicked wichcrafte leane.

For in theyr art they do no dout,  
the lyuing god forsake:  
Cleauing to condemnation,  
and therof hold do take.

What nede I here recyte scripture,  
syth all men well do knowe:  
That god so deadly doth it hate,  
that neyther hygh nor lowe

The same may vse, but that it will  
to Satan hys soule gyue:  
Or if gods law obserued were,  
not one of them should lyue

That charmers are, or coniurers,  
wyth wyches sorcerye:  
Or such as chosers are of dayes,  
making the byrdes that flye.

For



For why the faithfull that do feare  
god ryghtly and beleue  
Assuredly, do know that no  
such thing can once them greue.

And as for that astrologye,  
Iudiciall that ye name:  
Let learned Caluyne satisfye,  
all wise men of the same.

But Whisyke, and astronoiny,  
alas is now the cloke  
For euery kynd of trechery,  
that goodnes doth reuoke.

For wycked, wandering fugitiues:  
or vacaboundes most leaud:  
Do now a daies from there, to there,  
with shyftes both false and shrewed

Under colour of phisykes art,  
and noble surgery  
Delude the common multitude,  
wyth shamefull sorcery.

All secret markes they will disclose,  
and thinges long done and paste:  
Which doth with adimiration  
the people make agaste

In such wise, that they straight beleue  
that nothing vnder sonne  
Doth stand so hard or difficult  
of such men to be donne.

So that partly with Palmistry,  
or Chiromancies game:  
And folishe Physiognomy,  
and witchery that fraud

Unto their wicked, false purpose  
the people they allure:  
More then can any godly art,  
that perfect is and pure.

For bedleyn baudes, & hatefull whores  
this is a common myst:  
Of robbing theues and murderers  
it also is the drift.

Under



Under such clok their companies  
together oft they draw:  
Free from daunger of officers,  
and punishment of lawe.

Wlas that this might be sen to  
with iustice, power, and might.  
That Vranic, and Medicine  
agaïne might haue their right.

That now is by extorcion  
so fraudulently kept:  
That for most true possessioners  
the most part them accept.

For how their field was put them fro  
before I haue you sayd:  
Desyring now all learned men  
in this to adde their ayde.

That from the filthy frutes of hell  
It may once be purged:  
That there the right inheritours,  
Againe might be lodged.

That

That now be fayne to seke els where.  
some holsoine place to dwell:  
Where of the wyse they are accept,  
and entertayned well.

Amonge these thoughts most troubles  
at last I dyd awake: (some,  
findyng my body sweating soze,  
and all my synewes shake.

Where I long tyme lay sighing soze,  
thinking of thys straunge dreame:  
wythyng for sem interpretour,  
yf any in thys realme

Were full expert therin, as was  
Ferdinand Ponzetus:

Dr Artemidor, whose syr name,  
is sayd Daldianus.

But as ech thing doth weare by tyme,  
so other thoughts at last  
Abated thys perplexity,  
and it began to wast.

And



And I againe came to my self,  
that I dyd shortly here:  
The warbling notes & songe so swete,  
of Philomela cleare.

Whych counsayld me that slothfulnes  
I should from me expell:  
Wherefore I rose, and with all spede  
I lyghted a candell.

So serued my turne my tinder box,  
whych stood in my chamber:  
Then toke I forth my standish to,  
with pen, ynke, and paper

Where I carued forth illauredly,  
this rough and ragged verse:  
Wherin the effect of thys my Dreame,  
I rudely do rehearse.

Desiring yet my reades Dere,  
to beare it patiently:  
Syth it is but the budding flower,  
of my pooze infancy.

which

Which as ripnes of knowledge growes,  
I shall be glad to end:  
If any man, shall me informe,  
and thus I make an end,

FINIS.

IEREME. 10.

Ye shall not learne after the maner of the heathen, and ye shall not feare the tokens of heauen, for the heathen are afrayed of suche, yea all the customes and lawes of the Gentiles are nothing but vanitye.

ESAYE. 47.

Go nowv to thy coniurers, and to the multitude of thy vvyches, vvhom thou hast bene aquaynted with all from thy youthe, yf they maye here thee or strengthen thee. Thou hast hetherto had many counfels of them. So let the heauen gasers and beholders of Starres, come on nowve and delyuer thee: yea and let them shewve, vvhether these newv things



thinges shall come vppon the. Beholde they shall  
be lyke strawe , whyche yf it be kyndled vvyth  
fyre, no man maye ryd it for the vehemencye of  
the flame. And yet it giueth no finders to vvarme  
a man by, nor cleare fyre to sytte by. Euen so shall  
they be vvhom from thy youthe thou haste  
frequented. Eucry one shall shevve the  
hys erroneus vway, yet shall none  
of them defende the.

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Rouland Hall, dwelling in gutter Lane  
at the signe of the halfe Eagle and  
the Keye.

1562

1875  
The first of the year  
was a very dry one  
and the crops were  
very poor. The  
winter was also very  
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7

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